

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A sprinkler to sprinkle water running in a pipeline over both its sides through sprinkler heads mounted on the pipeline, wherein:

the pipeline comprises first water pipes and second water pipes connected to each other alternately so as to be freely disconnectable and reconnectable;

both end portions of each first water pipe are formed so as to have outer diameter which is equal to the inner diameter of the second water pipes;

a plurality of first engaging protrusions are formed on the periphery of one end portion of each first water pipe, at regular angular intervals around the longitudinal center axis of said first water pipe; and

a plurality of second engaging protrusions are formed at one end of each second water pipe so as to engage with the first engaging protrusions of the first water pipe when the end portion with first engaging protrusions of a first water pipe is inserted into the end with second engaging protrusions of said second water pipe, wherein:

each of the sprinkler heads of each of the first and second water pipes comprises (i) a groove-like through hole made in the wall of said water pipe, in the circumferential direction of said water pipe, at an appropriate place on said water pipe and (ii) a head unit to sprinkle the water in the pipeline;

the head unit of each sprinkler head of each of the first and second water pipes comprises (i) an outer cover which is fitted onto said water pipe to cover the groove-like through hole of said sprinkler head and slidable along the periphery of said water pipe, in the circumferential direction of said water pipe and (ii) a nozzle whose lower end is

inserted in the groove-like through hole and whose upper end is fixed to the outer cover;
and

when water is allowed to run through the pipeline, the water is sprinkled from the
upper ends of the nozzles.

2. (Original) A sprinkler as claimed in claim 1, wherein each first water pipe in the pipeline is movable along its longitudinal center axis and, when each first water pipe in the pipeline is moved toward the connection where the end portion without first engaging protrusions of said first water pipe is inserted into the end without second engaging protrusions of a second water pipe, the engagement between the first engaging protrusions of said first water pipe and the second engaging protrusions of a second water pipe at the other connection is broken.

3. (Currently Amended) A sprinkler to sprinkle water running in a pipeline over both its sides through sprinkler heads mounted on the pipeline, wherein:

the pipeline comprises first water pipes and second water pipes connected to each other alternately so as to be freely disconnectable and reconnectable;

both end portions of each first water pipe are formed so as to have outer diameter which is equal to the inner diameter of the second water pipes;

at least one end portion of each first water pipe is provided with a plurality of engaging parts which are disposed in the periphery of the end portion, at regular angular intervals around the longitudinal center axis of said first water pipe and free to protrude beyond and withdraw under the level of the outer surface of the end portion;
and

at least one end portion of each second water pipe is provided with engaging recesses in the inner surface of the end portion which engage with the engaging parts of a first water pipe, wherein:

each of the sprinkler heads of each of the first and second water pipes comprises (i) a groove-like through hole made in the wall of said water pipe, in the circumferential direction of said water pipe, at an appropriate place on said water pipe and (ii) a head unit to sprinkle the water in the pipeline;

the head unit of each sprinkler head of each of the first and second water pipes comprises (i) an outer cover which is fitted onto said water pipe to cover the groove-like through hole of said sprinkler head and slidable along the periphery of said water pipe, in the circumferential direction of said water pipe and (ii) a nozzle whose lower end is inserted in the groove-like through hole and whose upper end is fixed to the outer cover;
and

when water is allowed to run through the pipeline, the water is sprinkled from the upper ends of the nozzles.

4. (Original) A sprinkler as claimed in claim 3, wherein each engaging recess in the inner surface of said end portion of each second water pipe is continued, in the circumferential direction of the inner surface, smoothly to the inner surface.

5. (Currently Amended) ~~A sprinkler as claimed in claim 1,~~ A sprinkler to sprinkle water running in a pipeline over both its sides through sprinkler heads mounted on the pipeline, wherein:

the pipeline comprises first water pipes and second water pipes connected to each other alternately so as to be freely disconnectable and reconnectable;

both end portions of each first water pipe are formed so as to have outer diameter which is equal to the inner diameter of the second water pipes;

at least one end portion of each first water pipe is provided with a plurality of engaging parts which are disposed in the periphery of the end portion, at regular angular intervals around the longitudinal center axis of said first water pipe and free to protrude beyond and withdraw under the level of the outer surface of the end portion;
and

at least one end portion of each second water pipe is provided with engaging recesses in the inner surface of the end portion which engage with the engaging parts of a first water pipe. ~~A sprinkler as claimed in claim 1,~~

wherein each of the sprinkler heads of each of the first and second water pipes comprises (i) a groove-like through hole made in the wall of said water pipe, in the circumferential direction of said water pipe, at an appropriate place on said water pipe and (ii) a head unit to sprinkle the water in the pipeline;

the head unit of each sprinkler head of each of the first and second water pipes comprises (i) an outer cover which is fitted onto said water pipe to cover the groove-like through whole hole of said sprinkler head and slidable along the periphery of said water pipe, in the circumferential direction of said water pipe and (ii) a nozzle whose lower end is inserted in the groove-like through whole hole and whose upper end is fixed to the outer cover; and

when water is allowed to run through the pipeline, the water is sprinkled from the upper ends of the nozzles.

6. (Canceled)